



# MONTEREY NEWS

August 2003  
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## The Town

The wheels of town government may grind slowly but they do grind exceedingly fine. While dealing with all the usual business of signing warrants, renewing or initiating contracts, hearing reports from employees and other town boards, reading official mail, and handling the ongoing minutiae that lubricates the turning mill wheels of town business, the Select Board also has a full slate of visitors, prospective bidders, hopeful consultants, concerned citizens

and questioning press to juggle during its Monday morning meetings. In spite of that, decisions get made and business gets done. The Board generally adjourns to executive session if there are personnel matters to discuss, but everything else is open to the public—even the occasional differences of opinion. Not much happens without a discussion and scouring of the facts, and consensus is eventually reached—or the matter is put on next week's docket when there will be more information, continued discussion, or further work. The results for July follow.

## Second Homeowners Meeting

All owners of second homes in Monterey are cordially invited to meet with the Select Board on Saturday, August 16, at 9 a.m. promptly at the Firehouse. Mark your calendar! This is an opportunity for seasonal or part-time residents and the Select Board to have constructive conversation and discuss issues involving the town that are of particular and mutual interest. This annual meeting is often crowded, so you are encouraged to come early for best seats and parking.



Great Gatsby Gala Benefit for Bidwell House set for Rock Ridge on August 9. See p. 7.



## Board of Assessors

The Select Board stepped into the vacancy left by recent resignations by appointing themselves temporarily as assessors, giving townspeople a bit of time to answer the call to serve. As new members of the Board of Assessors applied and were appointed, the Select Board members resigned, giving way to the volunteers. Ultimately, Rick Mielke, Stan Ross, and Riccardo Boehm stepped up and have been appointed. Now up and running, the new Board of Assessors will be taking the appropriate courses, have begun familiarizing themselves with the immediate work at hand, and held their first meeting on July 28. They will serve until the next regular election in the spring. They will post a meeting schedule should you have business to bring to them.

The Select Board, town network administrator, accountant, administrative assistant, and some former and current assessors met with a representative of Patriot Properties to discuss the computer program used by the Town for assessor's records. The primary topic of conversation was the Board's wish to clarify issues of privacy and public access and create a more functional and appropriate system.

Several candidates have come forward seeking appointment to the paid position currently entitled Assistant Assessor, and the process of evaluating candidates may now go forward as the Board of Assessors begin to undertake their duties.

## Transfer Station Stickers

Frustration regarding current dump sticker cost and policies was expressed by a number of summer residents. Many summer cottages are now shared among multiple branches of a family, making the system of transfer station stickers affixed to cars impractical, as family groups come for a week or two and are then replaced by others throughout the summer. No more trash is generated than

a household with continuous occupants, but the cost of stickers—one needed for each new car/branch of the family—could be astronomical. A pay-per-throw system is being looked at, but needs further evaluation by the Solid Waste Committee. Stan Ross suggested that households who had paid the transfer station fee could ask for a windshield display card, which could then be left in the house for use by the occupants while they were in residence. They would place it on the dashboard of their car when they went to the transfer station, thus proving that the household had paid the required fee. That system is now in place, and such a placard may be had by the householder asking for it at Town Hall (and after paying the \$100 transfer station fee). The placard lists the household address, the permit number, and is good only for a limited duration of six months. Progress! Thanks, Stan.



**A reminder:** It is illegal to use the transfer station without the household having paid the fee. There have been reports of the dump attendant finding some potential patrons, whose cars displayed neither sticker nor placard, uncooperative and even verbally abusive when asked if they had a current permit. He is required to check for current permits, as the grace period has expired, and has been authorized to report the license plate number and description of the car of anyone dumping illegally (which is to say, without a permit). Illegal

dumping carries a stiff fine if found guilty, and we are aware that there have been rumors of illicit use of the transfer station (surely, by out-of-towners!) in the past—which, given the increasing cost of dealing with waste material, we want to avoid.

Such increased costs to operate the transfer station, we are informed, are the reason for increased sticker prices. The \$100 fee gets you up to two stickers (and, potentially, a placard). The stickers are good for one year (not two), which is fiscal year '04 (July 1, 2003–June 30, 2004).

## The Newly Elevated

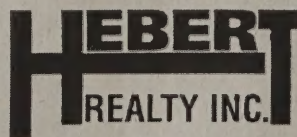
Michael Feltser has been appointed to the Solid Waste Committee for a term ending in 2006, and will organize a meeting of the committee (which has been inactive) in the coming weeks. He is studying the Pay-Per-Throw manual issued by the EPA to see if there is merit in considering a proposal along those lines.

The Wilson House Committee will consist of Georgiana O'Connell, Shirley Olds, Lew Scheffey, Bill Sequin, Gerry Shapiro, and Claudia Weldon, all duly appointed by the Select Board.

## Roads & Other Public Works

Maynard Forbes, Director of Operations, reported that various town roads have been regraded and some will be treated with calcium chloride to keep the dust down and the road material in place when it rains. How much will be spread is largely a function of budget, since the

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material is expensive. Cleaning catch basins, regrading after gulley washer thunderstorms, and other matters of routine maintenance are ongoing. The paving contract for a portion of Tyringham Road was awarded to Tri-Town Paving after opening of sealed bids and review of proposals, and paving will occur in early August, with one lane remaining open to allow traffic flow.

Road signage for private roads was undertaken when the 9-1-1 system was installed. That's how the tall white signposts came into being. A private road sign can, however, be another

sort of sign if that is what the residents prefer, as long as it is clear and visible. If they choose to have their sign be the tall white post, however, they are responsible for maintaining it—just as they would be for any other sort of sign identifying their road. It is absolutely necessary for each road, public or private, to have a sign if the 9-1-1 system is to work properly. The last thing anyone wants is an ambulance driver scratching his head in confusion while trying to respond to an emergency call to your house!

The Select Board also authorized Director Forbes to approve change orders for the Town Hall project, which would help to protect the Town from unnecessary charges. While small changes are within his purview, he will consult with a member of the Board on larger cost items. The Town Hall project is proceeding slowly, with excavation begun and foundation work underway. Hopefully, things will begin to move a little faster, as the contractor faces a five-month deadline for substantial completion.

## Police Matters

Traffic in two areas of town has risen to the level of concern: weekend morning traffic in the center of town, and parking and passing traffic at the public beach. Chief Backhaus will increase both foot and car patrols on weekend mornings in the center of town, deterring speeders



Will Marsh

*Feeding and entertaining the multitudes at annual Firemen's Steak Roast on July 26*

and assisting others, and bright orange safety cones instructing passersby to drive slowly have been placed along the lane divider at the beach. While it may appear that parking is limited at the beach, in fact there is additional parking available just on the left of Sylvan Road in the meadow. Larger cars, like SUVs and pickup trucks, intrude into Tyringham Road, and it would be very helpful for such cars and trucks to be parked in the Sylvan Road meadow instead, leaving the Tyringham Road spaces to smaller cars, to help avoid causing or being involved in an accident.

And slow down! Lots of small children and other beach patrons with arms full of chairs, towels, floats, etc., are moving about, so extra caution is warranted.

## Building Inspector

Walter Potash, the Building Inspector, has been working with the Select

Board to revise and clarify building permit application forms and accompanying instructions. A complete packet of forms and instructions will be given to every applicant for a building permit, and questions of whether one needs a particular form or permission may be resolved in consultation with the Building Inspector. In redoing the interior of a kitchen, for example, a new driveway permit is most likely not needed. The Board has also appointed Brian Getchell as Alternate Inspector of Buildings for a two-year term.

## Meeting of All Town Boards

The Select Board has called for a quarterly meeting of all town boards to be held on Wednesday, August 13 at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall. If you are a member of any town board, you need to be there!

— K. Wasiuk

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*Trying out the kayaks at LakeFest 2002*



## Welcome to LakeFest 2003!

LakeFest 2003 is shaping up to be another fun-filled day of activities on Saturday, August 16, with the beach events starting at 2:00 p.m. (Rain date is August 23.) The number of activities and participants have happily grown over the past two years. This LakeFest promises to be the best yet. Check the Schedule of Events Box on the facing page for all the times and locations.

In addition to the events we've come to know and love at LakeFest two new items have been added to the schedule: walks led by local naturalists around Brewer Pond at 9, 10, and 11 a.m., and free ice cream "dixie cups" provided by Del Martin Automotive for the hot and sweaty participants at the beach.

Back by popular demand, there will be music, dancing, and singing after din-

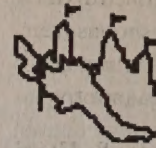
ner. Karl Finger will lead folk dancing, followed by the Bottom of the Bucket Band entertaining with Blue Grass and original tunes. And, of course, there will be fireworks. This year longer and quieter!

To facilitate more people having more fun doing more things, some "rules of the road" have been established to help keep things moving. Important information is presented in the activities list on how best to participate and what to plan for during the day.

LGA is recruiting a hardy band of volunteers to organize and manage all these events. Anyone willing to help out is invited (urged!) to call Kathie Frome at 528-2516.

Come one, come all. Enjoy the events and our wonderful Monterey community.

## LakeFest 2003 Activities



### Fishing Derby with Prizes

This event is sponsored by the Izaak Walton League at the Berkshire Fish Hatchery, Hatchery (River) Road, for children ages 12 and under from 8-11 a.m. Bring your own equipment. There will be PRIZES!—including one for the largest fish.

### Gallery And Tea Room

The exhibit "Inside Monterey" will be open in the Meetinghouse basement From 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Come see a variety of arts and crafts focused on the "interior life of Monterey." Call Eileen Lawlor at 528-7916 to submit items or help.

Refresh and remember at the Replica Tryon's Tea Room in the Meetinghouse basement between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Call Wendy Benjamin at 644-8960 to help.

### Guided Nature Walks at Brewer Pond

Local naturalists will lead walking tours around Brewer Pond teaching old and young about the flora and fauna that live there. Walking groups will form at 9, 10 and 11 AM at the dam.

### Boat Tours & Kayaks

Back by popular demand—the boat tours of Lake Garfield and FREE tryouts of kayaks, again provided by Expeditions of Great Barrington. Boats and drivers are needed. Please call Hy Rosen at 528-9090 to sign up. More boats will cut down the wait. Again, the "take-a-number" plan will be in operation so you can wait while doing other activities. If you can loan children's life jackets, please put your name on them and bring to Dean and Fran Amidon's dock at 2 p.m.

### Items for Sale at the Beach

Bring cash. Items for sale at the Beach Headquarters will include LakeFest baseball caps, light sticks, and bracelets (those things that light up at night that kids love) and LakeFest 2003 posters.

DESIGN AND PLANNING

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Kitchen/Bath Design

Construction Management  
Project Representation

Christopher Blair

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## Free Ice Cream!

Old-fashioned dixie cups of ice cream with wooden spoons (remember those?) at the beach starting at 4 p.m. hosted by Del Martin Automotive.

## Paper Boats & Flotilla

The idea here is for creative use of PAPER for a fun little object that floats. This is not a competition with on-site inspection to make sure no steel hulls are submitted, etc. Bring a boat you made in advance or use the clever recycling materials supplied by CET (Center for Ecological Technology) and June Rochedieu to construct what you want to float. Flotilla with fanfare at 5:00 p.m.

## Sandcastles

Please don't plan to make this the day you become a border collie and build the castle that no one can touch or help with—OK? Respect the construction sites and finished castles of others. Make sure that your participation (or your child's) is constructive, not a demolition derby.

## Children's Green Crafts Table

The Center for Ecological Technology will offer children's crafts using recycled and recyclable materials. Information about CET and their programs will also be available to everyone.

## Canoe Rides for Kids

Board canoes at the beach and ride through the tunnels to Brewer Pond with Ron McMahon.

## Lakefest 2003 Schedule of Events

**8–11 a.m.** Fishing Derby at the Fish Hatchery sponsored by Izaak Walton League for children age 12 and under

**9, 10, & 11 a.m.** Guided Nature Walks Around Brewer Pond

**10 a.m.–4 p.m.** Gallery & Tea Room—Meetinghouse Basement

**2 p.m.** Beach Activities Begin

- Boat Tours
- Canoe Rides for Children
- Kayaks
- Children's "Green Crafts" Table
- Face Painting
- Paper Boat Making
- Sandcastle Construction

**4 p.m.** Free Ice Cream

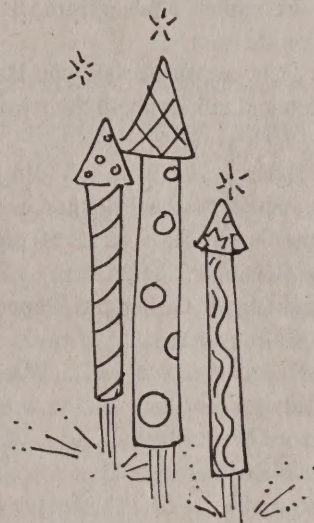
**5 p.m.** Paper Boat Flotilla

**5:30 p.m.** Potluck Dinner

**6:30 p.m.** Campfire & Marshmallows

**7 p.m.** Music & Dancing

**9:30 p.m.** Fireworks



## The Potluck

The potluck dinner at the beach is being organized by Myrna Rosen. She has an intrepid crew preparing to present a fabulous community potluck, BUT it depends on everyone accelerating their culinary production skills into high gear. In other words BRING FOOD—the best and lots of it!

This year the key to eating is bringing. For each person in your party, bring a dish that serves 6 people. Do the math: Family of 4 brings a dish that serves 24, or 2 dishes that each serve 12. When you deliver your special potluck dish you will receive tickets for everyone in your party.

Also, the line up for self-service will be managed by sharp-eyed volunteers to make sure that several super-hungry diners don't wipe out the supply before the other participants manage to reach for the serving spoons. Plates, forks, napkins, cups, and drinks provided by LGA. Call Myrna to help or for details at 528-9090.

## Campfire & Marshmallows

Once again, Bob Rausch will build a campfire and tend it all evening. Sticks and marshmallows provided by LGA. Come join the cozy fireside into the nighttime of music and fireworks.

## Cars & People

The parking is limited. Walking and carpooling are advised.

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## How's It Made?

This is definitely going to be more than just an art show.

Picture the Firehouse Pavilion occupied by fine artists and craftspeople displaying their work for sale and also demonstrating how they create their work. They'll answer your questions—at least the ones they can—and they'll show you works in progress, in some cases complete a piece from start to finish on the spot.

Here are the artists you can come watch and talk to about their work:

Joe Baker ..... Violin making  
Maureen & Michael Banner ..... Jewelry  
Diane Firtell ..... Mixed Media  
Ann Getsinger ..... Oils  
Marie-Claude Giroux ..... Papermaking  
Ellen Grenadier ..... Pottery  
Pat Hogan ..... Watercolors  
Wendy Jensen ..... Basketry  
Richard Michaels ..... Oils  
Michèle Miller ..... Oils  
Scottie Mills ..... Textile printing  
Peter Murkett ..... Furniture

Theresa May O'Brien ..... Feltmaking  
Edith Ross ..... B&W photography  
Lois Ryder ..... Scratchboard  
Joel Schick .. Book design & illustration  
Shellie Schneider ..... Collage  
Julie Shapiro ..... Oils  
Bernice Singer ..... Watercolors  
Mary Richie Smith Woodblock printing  
Lois Van Cleef ..... Pastels  
Leonard Weber ..... Watercolors

"How's It Made?" is organized and sponsored by The Monterey Cultural Council. Please mark the date on your calendars: **Saturday, August 30, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.;** and then be sure to attend.

There will be food available, provided by the Monterey General Store; there will be Leaf (and other natural objects) Printing on T-shirts (with Scottie Mills) for children to spark their creativity and to remember the day by (we are providing white shirts; you may bring others). Live music will enliven the day as well, with performances by Mountain Laurel (Bonner McAllester, hammered dulcimer; Don McLean, fiddle; Joe Baker, guitar) playing contradance music; "Bad Jazz" by Allan Dean, trumpet, and Arnie Hayes, keyboard; and more square dance music by Bottom of the Bucket (Eric Martin, fiddle; Steven Enoch, guitar; Danny Garrigan-Byerly, percussion).

## John Sisson to Speak on Old Mills to Historical Society

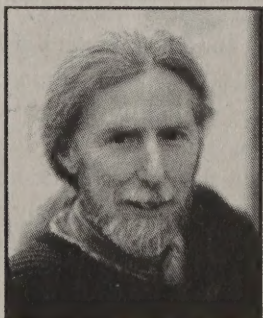
John Sisson, a resident of Mill River and an authority on early mills, will speak to the Monterey Historical Society on the several early industries that dotted the waterways of New England villages in the 1800s. These waterways were an important source of energy. He will talk about those found in Mill River and Monterey. The meeting is on Friday, August 22, at 7:00 p.m. at the General Knox Museum. All are welcome!



## Hearing on Community Development Plan Aug. 18

The Monterey Select Board will meet with representatives of the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission and the Community Development Plan Advisory Committee on Monday, August 18, 2003, at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall to discuss the Community Development Plan. The board invites public comment and input, particularly on developing plans for pedestrian and bicycle trails.

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## 1920s Jazz Age Revisits Lake Garfield Shores

If only for a one-night stand, the 1920s Jazz Age will come to life once again on Saturday, August 9, when the musicians of the Carlin Orchestra strike up the band on the wide porches and stone terraces of Rock Ridge, overlooking the moonlit shores of Lake Garfield. The occasion is the Great Gatsby Dinner Dance Gala to benefit The Bidwell House Museum.

Rock Ridge is the Victorian mansion built at the turn of the century whose stone tower gates are on the Tyringham Road just before the intersection with Beartown Mountain Road. Once the gracious and welcoming home of Arthur and Alice Somers, and now of Ginny and Bob Duffy, it is easy to imagine this special place as the setting for a fashionable social scene like the ones depicted in F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*.

Jazz had its musical roots deep in the blues of the South from Memphis to New Orleans, then moved up the Mississippi to Chicago to be infused with ragtime before spreading with a contagious mixture of syncopation and improvisation to take the rest of the country by storm. The nostalgia and exuberance of the Jazz Age portrayed in Fitzgerald's novel will be recreated for those who subscribe to the Bidwell House fund-raiser, perhaps even creating a scene of excess and frivolity in what promises to be a night to remember.

Although *The Great Gatsby* was a cultural commentary of its time, of high society in America, by the time it was published by Scribners in 1925 Fitzgerald

and his wife, Zelda, were living in Paris. There they became members of a Left Bank literary circle that included their friend Ernest Hemingway, for whom Fitzgerald was a mentor until another friend of theirs, Gertrude Stein, advised Hemingway to delete all the adjectives in his sentences. Hemingway went on to write *The Sun Also Rises*, which sold many more copies than *The Great Gatsby*.

If F. Scott Fitzgerald, a descendent of Frances Scott Key, saw in his main character, Jay Gatsby, flaws of social climbing and hero worshipping of celebrities, he himself understood them all too well. The American Dream seemed to be flying high in the 1920s: Lindbergh flew the Atlantic and Babe Ruth hit 60 home runs, both in 1927, while Bobby Jones was becoming a legend in golf, and Florence Chadwick became the first woman to swim the English Channel. It all came to an end, of course, when the bubble of the stock market burst in 1929, and the walls of the street that supported lavish lifestyles came tumbling down.

Now, just three years after the turn of another century, in days that have witnessed good times and bad, the Carlin Orchestra will play *Happy Days Are Here Again*, the theme song used by FDR for his second-term presidential election campaign after his New Deal had begun to revive the economy after the crash. Just recently, on July 18, the National Bureau of Economic Research announced that the current recession is officially over. What goes around also comes around, so let's seize the magic of a beautiful moment in our history and make a happy day happen again.

— George Emmons



## Bidwell House Museum to Hold Great Gatsby Gala

It may be the summer of 2003, and more than seventy-five years since F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic novel was published, but the spirit of the time will live on in the Bidwell House Museum's Summer Gala. The Great Gatsby midsummer fund-raiser will be held on Saturday, August 9, from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. at Rock Ridge, overlooking Lake Garfield. The cost will be \$135.00 per person, with dinner and dancing to the Carlin Orchestra. Also part of the evening's festivities will be a silent auction. The auction will offer a great opportunity to bid for tickets to a favorite show or concert, passes to a cultural attraction, a horseback riding lesson, a work of art by a local artist, or a night out at a favorite restaurant. Those interested in making a reservation should call Kathryn Roberts at 528-6188 or the Bidwell House Museum at 528-6888.

### Peter S. Vallianos Attorney at Law 528-0055

General practice includes real estate purchases, sales, family transfers and transfers in trust, zoning, land use matters, conservation restrictions, landlord-tenant; wills, probate; commercial law.

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## Of Fish and Phosphorus Lake Garfield Water Tests

In 1736, Benjamin Franklin famously wrote in his broadsheet *Poor Richard's Almanac*, "Fish and visitors smell in three days." As many of our homes are now blessed with guests, the summer season being full upon us, we shall here refrain from comment upon the odor of the latter category of noisome offender and address ourselves solely to the former.

We have all witnessed the decline of previously eye-pleasing bodies of water, those myriad lakes and ponds which abound in the lushly green Berkshires and add so much to the beauty and appeal of our region. Typically, what occurs is that inflows of nutrients and sediment accumulated from many sources run off into the waters, sooner or later to be followed by an overgrowth of weeds and grasses along the banks. After time, a proliferation of invasive plants, such as lily pads, which are hostile to its health and predictive of its imminent demise, appears on the surface of the lake itself, all but "paving over" the water. (The

dead pond at the intersection of Routes 23 and 41 in Egremont is but one sad example of this process.) This is called "eutrophication," and, by definition, describes the increase in mineral and organic nutrients resulting from a deficiency in dissolved oxygen, producing an environment which favors plant life over animal life. Nuisance weeds and algal scum, muck, low transparency, and stunted, dying fish are all characteristic of eutrophication. No longer "beautiful water," such a lake or pond has become a place where algae blooms, fish die, and the noxious odors of decay foul the air.

All lakes and ponds have some of these problems. After all, the process of lakes dying is a natural phenomenon and can be observed in even the most pristine of environments. But this usually takes millennia. What we are faced with now is the acceleration of this process in Lake Garfield, largely because of our own activities.

One of the functions performed by the Lake Garfield Association Ecology Team is a monthly foray out onto the lake, in the company of a lake steward from The Lake & Pond Association of Western Mass (LAPA-West). When feasible, as determined by the weather, the schedules of monitors and stewards, and the availability of a boat, monthly samples are taken. During this monthly "house

call," the lake steward uses a specially designed piece of equipment to measure various elements caused by substances introduced into the water. The sophisticated equipment used in this program costs in excess of \$10,000, so we are fortunate, indeed, to be part of the Lake Stewardship Program, and pay only a nominal fee for its use.

However, here's where our luck seems about to run out: It is our sad duty to report that, for the first time since we began such testing in Lake Garfield, the phosphorus count in the small part of the lake past the channel now reads 41 parts per billion, indicating that there is twice as much phosphorus here as in the other parts of the lake and twice as much as was measured in this same location last year. Because of the unusually cold spring of 2003, weeds failed to grow and indigenous weeds, believe it or not, are desirable. They bind phosphorus, prevent the growth of algae, and therefore keep the lake clear and "alive." Where weeds have been killed off as a result of climate changes, septic seepage, fertilizers, herbicides, and/or all the foregoing, thus elevating phosphorus, opportunistic algae will be sure to follow. That section of our lake which tested so high in phosphorus is now classified as "eutrophic," i.e., *dying*! Whenever phosphorus is present in large quantities, *something* is going to

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grow in abundance, either weeds or algae. If we keep dumping all that bad stuff into our lake, the consequences will be dire. We must take immediate action to stem this trend.

Fortunately, we recently learned that there is much we can still do to stave off the premature demise of Lake Garfield. Sarah Shepard, a representative of CET, an environmentally focused, nonprofit technology company, was the featured speaker at our July 19th open LGA meeting and she could not have come at better time! She described the harmful effects of phosphorus and nitrogen, which are literally pouring into our lakes from septic seepage, fertilizers, and unfiltered runoff from paved roads and raw land. She instructed us on the efficacy of planting shrubbery everywhere we could, thereby buffering the lakeshore and slowing down runoff. She admonished us to make sure to use only phosphate-free cleaning products in and around our homes. She implored us to have our septic tanks cleaned out regularly—every two years is optimal—and to test them to ensure they are not permitting septic products to enter the lake.

Don't take this lightly: Be afraid! Be very afraid! The results of our latest phosphorus test should be a warning and a clarion call to us all. Think of it as analogous to a message from your physician, with the disquieting news that recent tests reveal, oh, let's say, elevated blood pressure, or, maybe, "bad" cholesterol. The

## Clean Water Tip: Fertilizer Facts

Fertilizer is a "growing" problem for lakes, rivers, and streams, especially if it's not used carefully. Use too much fertilizer or apply it at the wrong time and it easily washes off your lawn or garden into storm drains and then flows into lakes and streams. Just like in your garden, fertilizer in lakes and streams makes plants grow. In water bodies, extra fertilizer can mean extra algae and aquatic plant growth. Too much algae causes water quality problems and makes boating, fishing, and swimming unpleasant. As algae decays, it uses up oxygen in the

usual reaction is, "Hey, quick, Doc! What can you give me to make it better?" Well, we've consulted our "lake doctors," CET and LAPA-West, who have recommended a "prescription" of a low phosphorus diet, by which we can hope to maintain the health of our watershed. As with our own, human health issues, it's up to each of us to make the right choices. The smell of dead fish is not pretty!

For more technical information about the recent testing of Lake Garfield by LGA and LAPA-West, visit our website, <http://www.lakegarfield.org>

— Pat Edelstein & Harriet Harvey

water that fish and other wildlife need.

What can you do?

- Have your soil tested before applying fertilizers to your lawn and gardens. A standard soil test costs \$8.00. You may not need to add any fertilizer. (Call the UMass Extension Soil Testing Lab at 413-545-2311 or visit [www.umass.edu/plsoils/soiltest](http://www.umass.edu/plsoils/soiltest).)
- Reduce or eliminate fertilizer application; use organic products, or slow-release fertilizer with NO phosphates.
- Don't fertilize before a rainstorm.

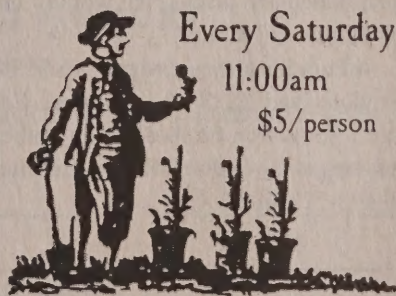
This information comes from MA DEP: "Clean Water Tips: Nonpoint Source Pollution and What You Can Do To Help". For more information contact the Center for Ecological Technology (CET) at 1-800-238-1221 or [www.cetonline.org](http://www.cetonline.org).

— Joy Kirschenbaum,

Waste Management Specialist, CET



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## August Bidwell House Events

The Bidwell House Museum will be hosting two weekend programs in August. On **Saturday, August 16**, from 1–4 p.m., visitors to the museum will enjoy an afternoon of talks and demonstrations on a variety of nineteenth-century crafts. This family program, **“Cookies and Country Crafts”** will include activities in basket making, wool spinning, and pottery. Sam Herrup will begin the afternoon at 1:00 p.m. with a talk on redware pottery. Many pieces from the museum’s extensive redware collection will be on display. At 2:00 Wendy Jensen will demonstrate the art of basket making, with many of her creations on display and available for sale. Theresa O’Brien will demonstrate wool spinning at 3:00 p.m. Throughout the day traditional music will be performed outdoors on the museum’s grounds, and everyone is invited to enjoy cookies and lemonade.

On **Sunday, August 31**, at 1:00 p.m., Tom Ricardi, founder of the Massachusetts Bird of Prey Rehabilitation Facility in Conway will present a program titled **“Birds of Prey.”** Mr. Ricardi has been volunteering to care for and rehabilitate injured birds of prey, such as hawks, owls, falcons, eagles, and vultures for the past 35 years. He will bring birds he has rehabilitated and discuss the work of the Rehabilitation Facility.

Admission to these programs is \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children. For more information on these or any other programs at the Bidwell House Museum call 413-528-6888.

## New Marlborough School Playground Opens

As you read this, the new playground should be up and running at the New Marlborough School! We want to thank everyone who has helped make this project a success and invite you all to join us September 13 for a grand opening celebration and ribbon cutting ceremony. Please look in the September issue for details.



## Local Agriculture Notes

Sarah Hudson and the Tyringham and Monterey Planning Boards would like to thank Bryan Boeskin and the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission for their support in organizing the Local Agriculture meeting in June. The meeting was held as part of the towns’ Community Development Plan initiatives which are funded by the state and led by BRPC. As a result of the meeting, the Select Board of Monterey has made one acre of land (at the Edith Wilson property) available to Steve and Sally Pullen of Greenhaven Farm for vegetable cultivation. Keep an eye out this summer for Steve and Sally’s beautiful vegetables at their roadside stand in Monterey center.

— Claudia Weldon

## Oil Paint and Waste Motor Oil Collections for August

Residents of Monterey and the other towns that form the South Berkshire Household Hazardous Waste Collaborative may bring used motor oil and oil-based paints to the locations listed below. Preregistration is required by calling the Center for Ecological Technology (CET) at 445-4556 or 800-238-1221 or e-mail [jamiec@cetonline.org](mailto:jamiec@cetonline.org). Acceptable materials are: unwanted oil paint, stains, paint thinners and turpentine as well as used motor oil.

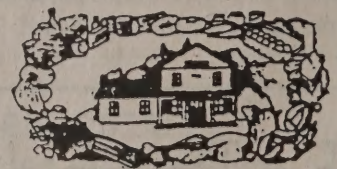
**Saturday, August 16, 9–11 a.m.**, Otis Transfer Station, West Center Road.

**Wednesday, August 20 4:30–6:30 p.m.**, Lenox: Department of Public Works, 275 Main St./Route 7A, across from MassHighway offices.

Refer to <http://www.cetonline.org/Events/events.htm#collections> for more information about acceptable material and additional collection opportunities.

Latex paint will not be collected at any of these events. Dried latex paint can be disposed of with regular trash. Kitty litter or newspaper can be used to absorb the excess liquid until it is dry.

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## Senator Says State Budget Update

Like most states across the country, Massachusetts has experienced dramatic declines in revenue because of the sluggish economy. This has resulted in cuts to many government services and programs that residents have traditionally relied upon. In June, the Legislature sent the Governor a \$23.1 billion budget. The Governor then vetoed, or cut, about \$201 million from this already scaled-back budget.

As many readers know, both the Senate and the House must gather a two-thirds majority for a veto to be overridden. Also, the state constitution requires that all overrides must be initiated in the House. I have included in this column some of the successful overrides enacted by the Legislature. It is important to note that many of these overrides surpassed the two-thirds requirement, and enjoyed bipartisan support. As of press time (mid July), the Legislature had restored about \$155 million of the Governor's vetoes, and could take up additional overrides in the coming months.

The legislature restored \$451,048 to fund Chapter 70 aid to cities and towns, bringing the total amount of Chapter 70 funding to \$3.1 billion for Fiscal Year 04. This level of funding represents a cut of 4.6 percent from FY03, the first time that Chapter 70 funding has been reduced since passage of the Education Reform Act in 1993. The Governor reduced this funding so that no district's Chapter 70 aid would exceed 100 percent of the district's foundation budget. The result of this veto would have decimated school funding for several communities in western Massachusetts, as in Dalton, which under the Governor's veto would have taken a \$146,000 cut to an already reduced school budget. Through the legislature's override of this veto, many small towns and communities will have the necessary funds to maintain their schools for the upcoming year.

The Governor's veto of \$7.5 million for the Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation (MLAC) was overridden because the vast majority of legislators rec-

ognize the benefits this program provides to seniors, children, and the disabled. MLAC provides important legal assistance to low-income families in civil trials. It also provides counsel to families and individuals on such matters as Medicaid, disability, and domestic abuse. This program supports the poorest and most vulnerable in our society, and I am pleased that the Legislature restored funding.

The Legislature also overrode the Governor's veto of \$290,000 for the Riverways Program, which is run by the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Environmental Law Enforcement. This program is of particular interest to me, as it has been extremely effective in restoring and protecting watersheds throughout the district I represent. Riverways Programs provide technical assistance, publications, and funds that are used for rivers, streams, and watershed lands. The programs are successful, in large part, because they encourage the collaboration of local volunteers with state and

town officials. These volunteers are critical to not only river protection, but also to fostering a real sense of environmental stewardship in our communities.

In addition to the above-mentioned overrides, the Legislature restored funding to hundreds of accounts, including: \$2.8 million for breast and cervical cancer screening; \$8.9 million for school-based health centers; \$10 million for kindergarten grants; \$1.9 million for early intervention reading programs; \$654,942 for gambler's treatment; \$350,000 to regional economic development projects; \$1.4 million for regional tourism councils; \$6.5 million for special education school placement reimbursements; \$2.2 million for work force training; and \$2.4 million for elder affairs.

For more information on the budget, check out [www.state.ma.us/legis](http://www.state.ma.us/legis) on the Internet, or contact my district office at 413-442-6810.

— State Sen. Andrea F. Nuciforo, Jr.

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## Song for Scooter

*Scooter-pie, you've changed your mind  
No longer lame nor deaf nor blind  
Love informed by pity went  
And cancelled your bewilderment*

*Now you sleep the profoundest sleep  
Indifferent to who may weep —  
I who wept at your Good-bye  
Will sleep one day like Scooter-pie*

— James H. Michelman

## A Bear Was There

(July '03)

*"He" ambled out across our wooden deck,  
stomped on some bushes, then began to eat.  
But when he saw the feeder on a stake,  
he shuffled over to examine it.  
At first he shook the stake, to no avail,  
then stood up straight and pushed it to the ground.  
He pried the feeder loose after a while  
(clutched in his jaws). He left, without a sound.*

*Or so I thought. For soon he reappeared —  
to stand, to sniff, to chomp on leaves once more.  
This time he stayed quite long. I sat and stared;  
though I was safe inside, I checked the door.  
The greenery out in back is now a wreck.  
I'm glad I wasn't sleeping on the deck.*

— Edwin Schur

## The Merciless Killers

*What has become of the woodland scene  
So quiet and peaceful there by the stream,  
And a little bit farther down in the glade  
The pink Lady's Slippers that grow in the shade?  
The Painted Trillium; Wake robin, red;  
And Dog-tooth Violet with bowed down head?  
They've been crushed to their death in this spot serene  
By junk cars marring the once fair scene . . .  
Some battered and bent from hard work and use;  
Others had known not a thing but abuse.*

*The squirrels in the tree tops scold and frown  
At that unsightly rubble down there on the ground.  
While high overhead the sun's all aglow  
The woodland flowers find no room to grow.  
There the robin sings; and the wood thrush, still;  
But battered old cars now cover the hill!*

— Eleanor Kimberley



## THE CLIMBERS' INN: Isle of Skye

*Every day is a thief  
stealing you  
and giving me this scrip of words  
in exchange*

*I am resting here  
trying to see, trying*

*the glass door in the carpeted lounge  
has thirty panes. I have counted them  
a calendar of chiaroscuro  
and glaucous reflection  
if it opened  
it might tell me something*

*hearty steps on the gravel outside  
a young Dutchman and his wife  
climbers, all pink eariness and  
smiling sighs of satisfaction  
blue down jackets, new Scottish sweaters  
the expensive honeymoon  
before later and its pinches*

*the glass door opens  
it is an old baized waiter  
stiffly combed  
he bends to the table at my knees  
offering a tea tray  
like a Zen priest  
as he collates one fine cup and one fine saucer  
the articles of faith*

*then unattended  
by the cocooned and chattering congregation  
I pour out that hot sacrament of solitude*

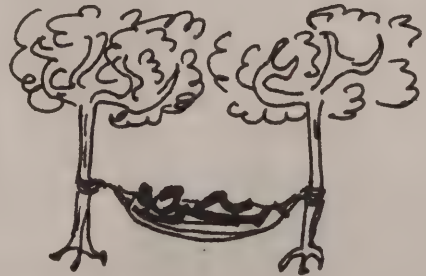
*it is my truth.*

— A. O. Howell

## Affordable Housing

*I could buy a cemetery lot  
and live on it  
in good weather  
in perpetuity  
for less than a month's rent  
in some flea bag.  
I would just use the above-ground  
portion  
for now  
and there would be room  
for up to three cremations  
additionally.  
Four if I opt for vulture  
burial.  
No. I wouldn't dream  
of putting up balloons or  
other inappropriate  
items.*

— Elizabeth Caffrey





## Community Connections

There's a possibility that the southern Berkshires will have a Volunteers in Medicine (VIM) free health care clinic, and if such a clinic for the uninsured does open, we can thank the Lake Garfield Association for its contribution to the concept. The linkage between LGA and a health clinic is not obvious, of course, so what follows is a delicious little story about how the fabric of a community is woven through the strands of personal commitments, connections, and friendship.

The story begins two years ago, when Marion and Len Simon "retired" from their work in Rochester, New York, and moved into a home they built in Monterey overlooking Lake Garfield. Marion has spent most of her adult life either as a volunteer (while their children were in grammar school) or working for philanthropic organizations, such as the Western New York Child Care Council, the Landmark Society of Western New York, the International Museum of Photography and Film at the George Eastman House, and the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. In the early 1990s, Marion turned her attention to her own consulting business, concentrating on advising not-for-profit organizations on such issues as development, fund raising, grant writing, membership growth, and capitol campaigns. "My consultancy has ranged from AIDS to Zen Buddhism," Marion quips, "and everything in between."

After moving to Monterey, the Simons became actively involved in local organizations, continuing the pattern they had established in Rochester. Marion is now on the boards of Barrington Stage and the United Way. "We believe strongly in sinking deep roots wherever we live. We've always been involved in organizations that appeal to us. Now that we're in Monterey, we support several of the many cultural institutions here, but we also feel that it's critical to support social services. A lot of people here don't know or don't want to know what goes on beneath the scenery, music, and art that the Berkshires are known for," says Marion, "but we want to pay attention to those issues, too."

Both Simons are active in the Lake Garfield Association. In fact, every weekend morning in July and August, Len can be found in front of the General Store hawking LakeFest posters. Last fall Kathy Frome, president of the Lake Garfield Association, asked Marion to meet with Sheffield resident Elaine Panitz, who was president of the Lakes and Ponds Association (LAPA), to discuss fund-raising. "Elaine and I became friends," says Marion. "Elaine and her husband Fred are both retired physicians who moved here from Princeton a few years ago. On New Year's Eve, the four of us went to a concert and had dinner at our house afterwards. At dinner Elaine asked if we'd ever heard of Volunteers in Medicine. When I said 'yes,' she asked if we thought it would be possible to initiate such a program here," explains Marion.

Volunteers in Medicine (VIM) is a ten-year old organization that has created an opportunity for retired health care professionals to continue their work, but as volunteers in their community. The original VIM clinic is on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, a decidedly upper class resort community. Dr. Jack McConnell, a dynamic figure in medical research who had retired to a gated Hilton Head community, had an epiphany one day when he realized that more than 10,000 people on this exclusive enclave had no access to health care because of their economic circumstances. Dr. McConnell was so shocked by these conditions that he was inspired to create a free health clinic, made possible in part by the presence of hundreds of retired medical and dental professionals on the island.

With prodding and pushing by Dr. McConnell, South Carolina passed a law enabling a Special Volunteer License to practice for those from out of state, and negotiated an agreement with the Joint Underwriters Association to cap any malpractice award emanating from care at the clinic to \$200,000. He oversaw the construction of a clinic, which opened in February 1993 with 55 physicians, 68 nurses, 7 dentists, plus social workers, dental assistants, and 100 lay volunteers.

The Hilton Head VIM program was so successful that it's not just been copied—currently there are 24 such clinics across the country with another 40 "in the pipeline"—but a Volunteers in Medicine Institute is in operation in Vermont, providing consultants to groups hoping to use this model to provide free health care

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to those who need it in their communities. And that's where the Simons and the Panitzes enter the story. Within a few weeks of their New Year's Eve dinner, the two women organized a lunch with two other Berkshire women, one with extensive experience in a wide array of local organizations, the other a public health nurse with many contacts in the local public health field. The idea appealed to all of them, and they decided to explore the potential for it, with each woman pursuing her area of expertise.

Because of her career as a physician, Elaine recruited a consultant from the VIM Institute, and began meeting with local physicians. His salary and expenses are being paid for through grants solicited by Elaine and Marion.

Marion brought the idea to the United Way, which has subsequently gotten involved with a venture grant. Elaine was able to engage an intern from the Harvard School of Public Health, who is now overseeing a needs assessment for the southern Berkshires. His salary and expenses are being paid for through grants Marion solicited.

Matthew Mandel, a retired physician who teaches knitting at IS183, joined the organizing efforts after attending a development seminar Marion led for the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation. Her workshop began with people introducing themselves. "When Matt said he was a doctor, I asked him to stay after class. Well, he got hooked, and he's done superb work developing interest from physicians. I think he's made 30 phone calls, and gotten 29 'yeses,'" Marion

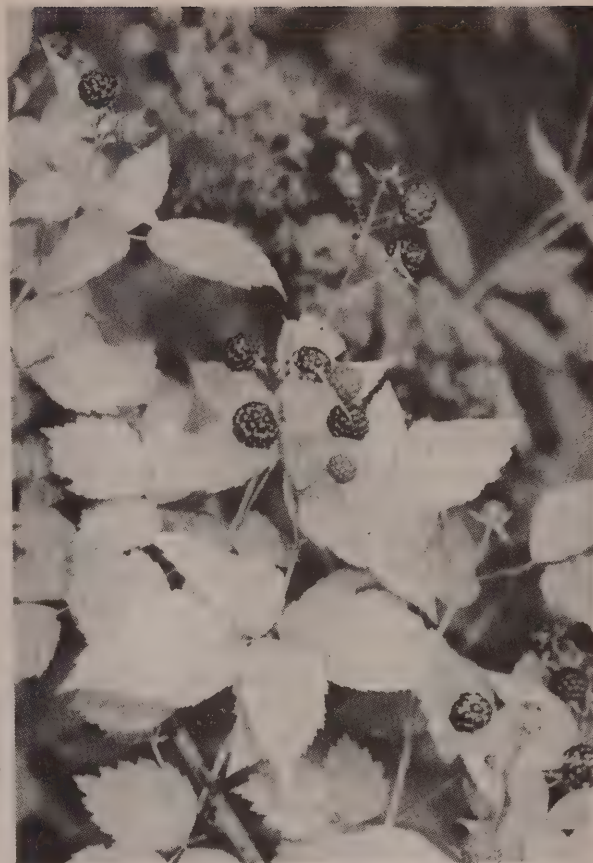
reports. "It's important that doctors themselves be the driving force behind the idea of a VIM clinic. Matt's success proves why."

Marion adds, "The real work is done by people who have experience in delivering health services. It's essential that the health care professionals do the work because they're the ones who can speak knowledgeably about the delivery of medical services. My contribution is what I know about bringing people from disparate groups into the fold so no one feels excluded. Someone is needed to smooth over issues. And I've had a lot of experience bringing people of very different backgrounds and viewpoints together for a common purpose."

The most obvious virtue of Volunteers in Medicine is the provision of health care to those who can't afford it. A less obvious but equally important aspect of the VIM program is that its volunteers learn "the gift that comes from giving," made all the more important because most of the volunteers are retired physicians, whose work schedules typically make them strangers to volunteer activity. "VIM provides a chance for people to

give back to their community. And people who volunteer once are likely to continue doing so," Marion notes, "so there is an exponential benefit for the community."

If the needs assessment demonstrates that a free health care clinic for the uninsured of the southern Berkshires is appropriate, then the rapidly growing group of potential volunteers can move forward. And if such a clinic is actually established here, isn't it satisfying to know that our Monterey neighbors played a role in making it happen?



Glynis Oliver

— Laurily Epstein

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## The Charismatic Western Megafauna and Me

We are just back from Wolf Country, Grizzly Country, Buffalo Country. A few years ago I would have even said Marlboro Country, and some generations back it could have been called Indian Country. We saw many buffalo, one grizzly, a few Indians, no Marlboros and no wolves. We probably saw a few "Marlboro Men," but it is hard to distinguish them from the general public now that they are off the billboards. Whatever you want to call it, though, the magic of the Rockies is still powerful. I go there every three or four years to sniff the sagebrush, get reacquainted with the Milky Way at night, and think about my home life from a distance. I like to drive out there because it reminds me how glorious the American landscape is, and how big.

A week ago we climbed up Taylor Peak in the Tetons with some friends. Guys right off the billboards came by on heroic horses and one had a rifle of some sort in a handsome leather scabbard. I asked him about it and he said, "This is my bear spray." We joked around and

they went off toward Idaho with their hats and leather and western style, leaving us a few residual (and large) horseflies. I indulged in a little gratuitous American pride, probably more about the horses and the scenery than the guys and the leather, but it was definitely a package.

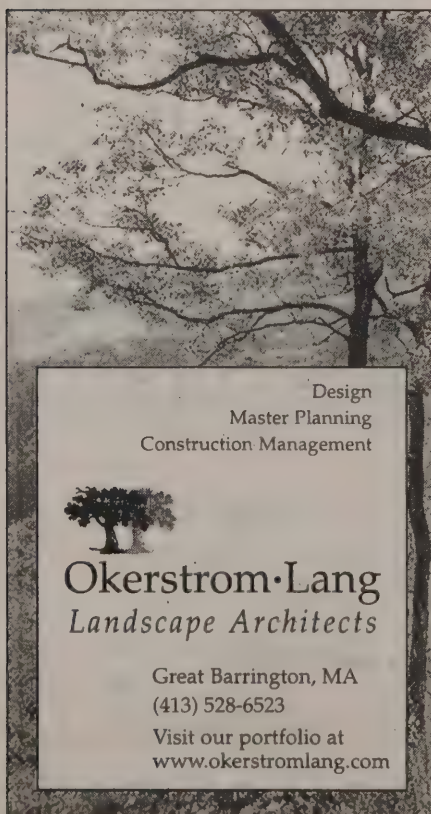
I have been thinking about that package since I got home. In Yellowstone Park we met some Buffalo Field Campaign activists. They were set up by the trail to Tower Falls with a sign identifying them as "Citizens exercising their First Amendment Rights, not representatives of the National Park Service." Their concern is the buffalo management program, or slaughter, that happens every winter when some of the Yellowstone herd migrate out of the park to winter grazing in Montana. Although the buffalo are generally regarded as a national treasure, an evocative icon of the American West, to the cattle ranchers of Montana they are a problem.

To the Buffalo Field Campaign activists, the nature of this problem is about like the Weapons of Mass Destruction in Iraq: the cattle people are calling it brucellosis, a disease known also as undulant fever. For sixty years the USDA has helped farmers and ranchers work to eliminate this disease in cattle. Montana has "brucellosis free" status and wants to keep it that way. The Montana Department of


Livestock is involved in an "interagency bison management plan" which operates mainly in the winter to either shoo the buffalo back into the park or to round them up and test them for the disease. If they test positive, they are shot.

Shooing buffalo is no easy task and is done with helicopters, flying low. The buffalo get to running and some of them do go, temporarily, back into the park. Sometimes buffalo cows with calves get run into wire fences and injured. Rounding up for testing is also difficult, and the individuals that just won't be rounded up are often shot. Even the testing is not conclusive since the principal test used detects only the presence of brucellosis antibodies, not an actual infection with live bacteria. So any buffalo that has been exposed may carry antibodies, though it is not infectious. And even if it were infectious, the only known way cattle could contract the disease from buffalo would be through eating the afterbirth from a recent calving. This scenario, a domestic cow somehow getting access to buffalo afterbirth and consuming it, has never been known to occur. In fact, there has never been a case of domestic cattle contracting brucellosis from contact with buffalo. It sounds a lot like "no Weapons of Mass Destruction."

What is all the flap actually about, I wondered. The Buffalo Field Campaigners



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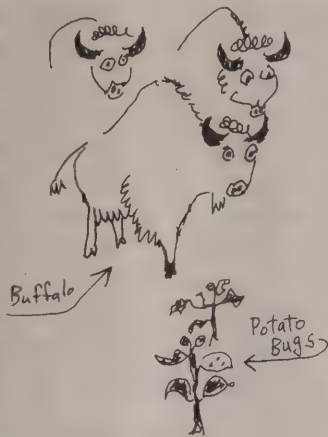
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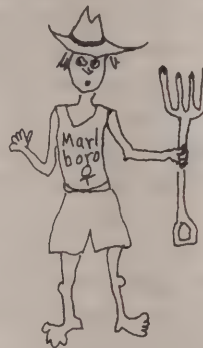
think it is about grazing. When the buffalo get out of the park and onto public (or private) lands where cattle also graze, they can be seen as taking grass from the cattle and profits from the industry. The public lands in the West are often available to cattle ranchers in the form of subsidized grazing permits which are passed along from one generation to the next. Ranchers get to feeling proprietary about the land and the grazing, though of course it belongs to all of us.

The Yellowstone Park scientists and administrators walk the thin line between government policy and public opinion, local money interests and real science. The story is complicated, and anyone with the slightest romantic Marlboro Man remnant inklings should not be too quick to assume they know where their sympathies lie. The Buffalo Field Project Coordinator, Dan Brister, writes in the organization's newsletter: "Montana's livestock industry perpetuates the brucellosis myth to eliminate competition from bison, native grazers that have evolved to the West's arid conditions over thousands of years. Livestock producers perpetuate another myth. They would have us believe that the West was made to raise livestock. The facts belie this assertion. Montana contributes less than one quarter of one

percent to total U.S. beef production. Private lands in Maryland produce as much beef as Montana's BLM and Forest Service lands combined. It takes 73 times the land-base to raise a cow in Montana as it does in Iowa."



"Marlboro Woman!  
Change your ways..."



"Who ME? I just  
want to keep eating  
potatoes, like my ancestors did."

As I listen to these arguments I remember all the controversy over wolf reintroduction, a successful project which is now in its eighth year in the park and is so popular among park visitors that you don't hear much about the 1988 fires, which captured the public imagination for so long. Before the wolf project began there were demonstrations, meetings, letters, bumper stickers, fights. The message of the program's opponents: Our ancestors fought for this land. We fought the Indians, the wolves, and the buffalo so we could pursue our way of

life (cattle ranching) and we are not giving it up.

For me, the big animals, called "charismatic megafauna" by one wolf scientist (Jim Halfpenny), have much the same kind of allure as the Marlboro Man: big country, sagebrush, American history. The trouble is, the Marlboro Man is a newcomer in the ecosystem. He brought with him the domestic cattle and his stubborn sense that in America he has the right to do as he pleases. He has his values and the cattle-ranching way of life is his heritage, he believes.

Before I judge the Marlboro Man, however, I should take a closer look at myself. Since I got back I have been engaged in a management campaign myself. The main difference is that my targets are uncharismatic microfauna: potato bugs. They threaten my potato-eating way of life. My ancestors "bought" this land from the Indians and I cleared it with blood and sweat. Potatoes are my way of life and there is not room in my potato patch for the bugs and me. I doubt the Potato Bug Field Campaign will set up its propaganda table by my garden, but they certainly could. I would find myself riding side by side with the Marlboro Man, hanging onto my idea that I get to do what I like. With every potato bug I kill, I think about this.

— Bonner J. McAllester

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## The Spirit of Monterey

### Music at the Meetinghouse

The Spirit of Monterey Concert Series premiered at the Meetinghouse on Saturday evening, July 5. The Double String Duo played a varied program, ranging from music of the Renaissance and Baroque periods to contemporary music and classic American jazz.

The Double String Duo consists of Jason Kessler on twelve-string guitar, and Rick Eckberg on five-string double bass. The twelve-string guitar is familiar to most listeners as a folk instrument, famously accompanying Leadbelly. Jason has expanded the limitations of the instrument, proving it to be a perfect voice for early lute music and solo classical repertoire. He plays a unique guitar, created for him by Irish luthier George Leydon, combining the body of a twelve-string and the wide neck of a classical guitar. The steel strings, plucked by fingernail, create a sound reminiscent of a harpsichord, but with a deeper, richer resonance. Rick Eckberg is a virtuoso of the double bass, sometimes plucking it as a rhythm instrument, sometimes bowing a beautiful solo in the higher registers (some of the music he played at the July 5 concert was originally written for flute). He switches from one style to another within the same song, and even within the same verse. In his own way, Rick pushes the limits of the bass just as Jason does with the twelve-string guitar.

The concert began with a number of pieces written for lute by John Dowland. The Duo is obviously happy in this genre, playing with lilt and joy, even improvising solos as if these ancient songs were sixteenth-century jazz. The same sense of virtuosic joy informed the selections from J. S. Bach and Antonio Vivaldi. One of the highlights of the evening was the Duo's rendition of the ever-popular Vivaldi Lute Concerto in D. The music is familiar from *Kramer vs. Kramer* and countless television commercials, but the Duo's style and unique instrumentation brought something fresh and new to the work.

The Duo has a relationship with Mason Williams, a guitarist who gained fame doing music and comedy writing for the Smothers Brothers television show, and had a major hit with a complex instrumental record, *Classical Gas*. Since those days, Williams has continued to write interesting and infectious music for the guitar. He has chosen the Duo to premier a number of his most recent compositions, such as a lovely but unlikely combination of styles across the centuries called *Baroque a Nova*.

The Duo was joined for their jazz selections by Monterey resident Joel Schick. Many in town know Joel as an illustrator of children's books, toys, and games (and others know him only as the man who seems always to be walking his huskies along Route 23). Few are aware that before his art career, he was lead singer and played harmonica with Chicago blues band Gorilla Danish. Joel's

vocal and musical range have both broadened in the intervening years. As a performer, he closes his eyes when the music begins, and seems to disappear into some sort of netherworld of jazz, taking the audience right along with him. After Joel performed the lyric, each of the musicians took turns improvising solos—including the singer, whose scatting made his voice a third instrument in the ensemble. The group's rendition of the R&B classic "Sunny" was especially effective, and got the audience swaying and stomping like a Helsinki crowd.

The next Spirit of Monterey Concert will take place at seven o'clock, Saturday, August 2, at the Monterey Meetinghouse. The Double String Duo will again be joined by Joel Schick.

This time, as a very special treat, Allan Dean will also sit in with the group. Allan, a Monterey resident, is a world-class trumpet player.

He has been a concert musician, recording artist, and masters-level teacher. His musical range includes every style and form from early music (which he plays on valveless horns of the period), through the entire classical repertoire, to popular theater music to jazz. Allan plays locally only rarely; he should not be missed.

Tickets are ten dollars, and are available at the door. The third and final concert will be on Saturday, August 30. For information, call the creator and producer of the Concert Series, June Rochedieu, at 528-2795.

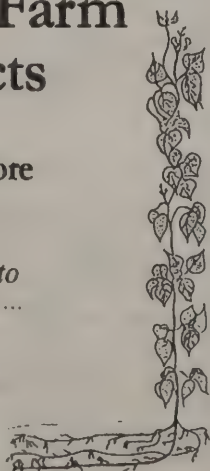


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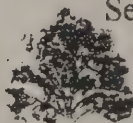
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## Sandisfield Arts Center Grand Reopening

The Sandisfield Arts Center celebrates its grand reopening after extensive renovations with three days filled with music, art, and more on Labor Day weekend, August 30–September 1. The historic Sandisfield Arts Center building is located at the beginning of Hammertown Road off Route 57 in Sandisfield. It is currently undergoing renovation funded by a grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission and individual donations.

The celebration begins with “Sandisfield Sings!”, a free open-mike evening of performances in the downstairs café beginning at 8 p.m. on Saturday, August 30. Hosted by Sandisfield singer-songwriter Jeffrey Folmer, who has performed across the country opening for internationally renowned artists, the evening will feature a variety of performers from the local area.

The following day, Sunday, August 31, at 2 p.m. there will be an all ages folk rock show with acclaimed recording artists The Nields. Thanks to generous support from the Berkshire Bank and the High Meadow Foundation, the ticket price for this show is only \$5. The music of Nerissa & Katryna Nields, sisters who have been singing together since they were children, has been called “invitingly melodic, insightful lyrics and gorgeous harmonies” by the *Boston Globe*,

and “literate, witty pop folk for an audience ready to be charmed” by *Time Out New York* magazine.

An unusual look at the lives of a Sandisfield couple through mementos and photography by neighbor Jill Hunter opens Monday, September 1, at 12 noon in the downstairs café. Jill Hunter began photographing her neighbors Fred and Mary Kimberley about ten years ago. Longtime residents of Sandisfield, they lived in a home built by Fred’s ancestors in the 1800s. Jill Hunter’s work has been shown at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, the Danforth Museum of Art in Framingham, and the Monument Museum in Provincetown, among other places. She has spent summers and weekends in Sandisfield since 1981. The opening reception is free and open to the public.

Following the grand reopening weekend, the Sandisfield Arts Center 2003 performing arts program begins with a one man show about World War II reporter Ernie Pyle on Saturday, September 6, and continues on Saturday nights throughout autumn with theater, music, movies, Balinese tales, and more.

For more information about the Sandisfield Arts Center and upcoming programs, please call 413-258-3309 or visit [www.sandisfieldartscenter.org](http://www.sandisfieldartscenter.org).



## Fish Hatchery Fest Aug. 24

The Berkshire Fish Hatchery will hold its second annual Lobster & Clam Fest on Sunday, August 24, beginning at 2 p.m. on the Hatchery grounds, off Hatchery (River) Road in New Marlborough, just over the Monterey line. The menu will include lobster, clams, corn on the cob, salads, rolls, and watermelon. A raw bar will also be available at additional cost. Tickets are \$50.00 each, with the proceeds going to benefit the Hatchery. Last year’s Fest was sold out and a marvelous time was had by everyone attending. Only a limited number of tickets are still available and they can be obtained by calling 413-528-9761. We look forward to seeing you at this community event.



## Highland Communities Hike

Join the Highland Communities Initiative for this special outdoor opportunity in Chester on August 16 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The hike winds through a scenic river valley en route to the Keystone Arch Bridges, the first keystone bridges built for railroad use in America. A \$5 donation is requested; registration is required. For information or to register, call 413-587-0716, extension 14.

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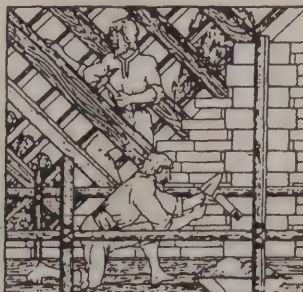
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## **Scholarship Awards Revisited**

To the Editor:

"19 McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarships Awarded to Monterey Students"

The article is incorrect, there should have been "20." Claire Mielke received no scholarship.

The McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarship is based on:

1. Academic Achievement: Claire Mielke was Monterey's number one graduate of 2003 in academics.

2. Community Service: Claire Mielke was Rotary Interact president, former Monterey Library volunteer for years, Monterey Fish Hatchery intern, and volunteer leader at St. James Episcopal Church.

3. Desire to Achieve Academic and Life Goals: Claire Mielke outpointed 6,000 applicants to be one of 304 accepted into the United States Coast Guard Academy. Claire spent countless hours and energy fighting physical waivers to be finally admitted May 21, 2003. Desire this woman has.

**CHARLES J. FERRIS**

**Attorney at Law**



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4. Financial Need: Claire Mielke had to pay several thousand dollars up front to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Claire is spending this summer at boot camp. She is getting paid about \$750 per month; she will net approximately \$100 per month. All except the \$100 per month goes towards room, board, and expenses. Her tuition is not "free"; she owes the U.S. Coast Guard five years of her life, after graduation, in service to her country.

Edith Wilson knew Claire personally, and would have been so proud of her accomplishments as a woman, scholar, and an active participant in her community.

Claire was turned down by the committee of "5" because "tuition costs are entirely covered by the U.S. Coast Guard." This is not true! Claire's tuition is entirely covered by her employment to the U.S. Coast Guard. It is paid by reduced wages, weekend duty, summer duty, and 5 years of service after graduation.

Claire is essentially doing work-study for education. Northeastern's Work-Study comes to mind. A student working at K-Mart and writing a check to U-Mass. The committee was obviously biased against Claire's employer, the United States of America, and her choice of college, one of the top ten division three colleges in the country.

Maeve O'Dea of the Berkshire Taconic Foundation also wrote on 7/7/03 "that Claire's decision was based on financial need." Maeve, I sat on your committee the last three years; I had to get off because we all agreed Claire was outstanding in every way. The only change

in a year was her employer and choice of college. Maeve, looking at last names past and present, financial need is bogus.

I am so proud of my daughter Claire and all she is and will become. My family, the schools she has attended, the community, and the world are better for knowing Claire. Our country is in a great pair of hands.

— Proud Papa Rick Mielke, Monterey

To the Editor:

I read with interest the list of McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarship winners in the *Monterey News*. There seems to be one name missing, Claire Preyer Mielke. Claire graduated Cum Laude from Mt. Everett this year. She won the following awards: Bausch and Lomb, President's Award for Educational Excellence, Prudential Spirit of Community Award, Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizenship Award, Wendy's High School Heisman Scholar Athlete Award, Berkshire Plastics Network Scholarship, New Marlborough PTA Scholarship, Sheffield Plastic Scholarship, William Mielke Memorial Scholarship.

She has been a member of SADD, Rotary Interact Club, Mt. Everett Band, Mt. Everett Basketball Team and assisted at the Monterey Library. She is the epitome of the student Marjorie McLaughlin and Edith Wilson had in mind when the McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarship Fund was established.

Claire applied for the McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarship this year along with

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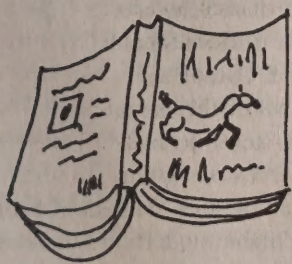
two other Monterey residents. Two new scholarships were awarded this year along with continuing education scholarships for a total of \$72,500. Claire, who is a lifelong resident of Monterey, received zero.

Claire has been accepted at the United States Coast Guard Academy. The cost of that acceptance and education is \$3,000 up front and five years of your life after graduation to serve your country.

I would like to ask the McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarship Committee to consider what five years of service to one's country is worth?

I am Claire Preyer Mielke's grandmother.

— Nancy E. Dinan



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## Who Was That (Un)Masked Man?

To the Editor:

On a beautiful Sunday morning in July, as I was reading the *Monterey News* on the porch at the General Store waiting for my husband, Hy, who was selling posters for LakeFest, a gentleman approached. "I don't want to buy a poster," he said, "but I would like to make a contribution," he continued, pressing a many-times-folded bill into Hy's palm, adding, "Please don't open this until I leave."

Somewhat startled, my husband asked the receding figure what his name was, "I don't remember," he said with a smile, and in the style of John Bearsford Tipton, he was gone.

The bill, unfolded, revealed enough money for many a poster, but it was the spirit in which it was given that made my own spirit soar. No pomp. No circumstance. Just a brief exchange in which one's generosity was more than a mere contribution: it was a gesture of goodwill; an expression of community.

Should this unmasked man be reading this issue of the *Monterey News*, I would guess a simple "Thank You" would suffice.

— Myrna Wener Rosen

## August Swimming Lessons at Lake Garfield

The Monterey Park Commission has scheduled swimming lessons for the first two weeks of August at the Town Beach on Lake Garfield. For information contact Chandler Crawford, 528-6611. Look for more news about what to look forward to from the Monterey Park Commission in the coming months. We hope you have a wonderful summer.

## Thanks from the Park Commission

The Monterey Park Commission would like to thank the following people for their generosity and time: Our icemakers at the rink, **Daryl Jensen and Rick Andrus**. The rink was used a lot this winter as long as the weather was cooperative. **Chief Backhaus, Maynard Forbes, Rick Andrus, Tommy Andrus, Dean and Fran Amidon** for all their help at the beach. **Michel Storch** for our new clock on the lifeguard beach house. Please stop by and see our lifeguards at the beach—**Beth, Lindsay, and Kelly** are back again, joined this year by our new lifeguard, **Lukas**.

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## Kathryn Dean and Michael Caruso Married

Kathryn Dean and Michael Caruso were married on June 21, 2003, at 6 p.m. at Saint Elizabeth Seton Catholic, Bedford, New Hampshire. Monsignor John P. Quinn performed the double ring ceremony. The bride is the daughter of Douglas and Eugenia Dean of Bedford, New Hampshire, and the granddaughter of Mrs. Rosemarie Regan of Monterey. The groom is the son of John and Susie Caruso of St. Mary's, Georgia.

Mr. Sundiata Munavu of Seattle, Washington, was the bride's Man of Honor. Ms. Lanna Joffrey of New York

## Remembering Marie N. Bell

Long-time summer resident, Marie N. (Billie) Bell died on June 14, 2003. Billie is survived by her husband, Bill, six children: Barbara, Betsy, Becky, John, Jane, and Robert, and nine grandchildren.

The Bells purchased the former George Brett homestead on Brett Road in Monterey in 1969.

City was the groom's Best Woman. The bridal attendants were Ms. Naama Ben-Ishay, New York City, and Mr. Kyle Dean, New Rochelle, New York. The groom's attendants were Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Caruso of Tampa, Florida, and the flower girl was Elise Bender of Westminster, Colorado.

A reception was given at the home of the bride's parents in Bedford, New Hampshire. After a honeymoon trip to Ponte Vedra, Florida, the couple will be at home in New York City.

The bride is a 2000 graduate of Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, Michigan, where she received a B.A. degree in art and psychology. She is an artist in New York City. The groom graduated from Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York, in 2000 with a B.F.A. degree in theater arts. He is an actor in New York City.

## Contributors

We are grateful to the following readers for recent contributions to the *Monterey News* in response to our annual fund-raising appeal. You make it possible to continuing publishing your community newspaper.

Gerry Shapiro  
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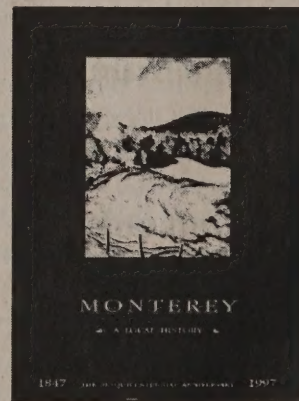
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## Calendar

**Every Monday:** Select Board meeting, 8:30 a.m.–noon, Town Offices.

**Every Saturday:** Mass, 7 p.m., Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Chapel, Beartown Mountain Road

**Saturday, August 2:** Spirit of Monterey Concert, 7 p.m., Monterey Meetinghouse. The Dual String Duo will be joined by Allan Dean on trumpet and Joel Schick (vocals). \$10. Information 528-2795. See p. 18.

**Sunday, August 3:** Ed Popielarczyk's Magical Moments, a Family Show for All Ages, 2:00 p.m., Rt. 57 Sandisfield Firehouse. Free, made possible by generous funding from the Sandisfield and Monterey Cultural Councils

**Saturday, August 9:** Great Gatsby Gala, 5:00–10:00 p.m., Rock Ridge, Tyringham Road. Dinner and dance fundraiser for Bidwell House Museum. Reservations required. See p. 7.

**Tuesday, August 12:**

Lecture & Slide Show on Outsider Art by Rosa & Aaron Esman, 6–7:30 p.m., South Berkshire Community Center, 15 Crissey Road, Great Barrington. Sponsored by Sheffield Art League. Members free; Non-Members \$5.00.

**Wednesday, August 13:** Meeting of all town boards, 7 p.m., Town Hall.

**Thursday, August 14:** Free blood pressure clinic, 2:30–3:30 p.m., Town Hall.

**Saturday, August 16:**

LakeFest, a full day of summer fun activities focusing on the lake. Sponsored by Lake Garfield Association. See pp. 4–5 for activities, schedule.

“Cookies and Country Crafts,” 1–4 p.m., Bidwell House Museum, Art School Road. Basket making, wool spinning, and pottery demonstrations. \$5 for adults, \$2 for children. See p. 10.

Second Homeowners meet with Select Board, 9 a.m., Monterey Firehouse.

Highland Communities Initiative Hike to Keystone Arch Bridges, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Chester. \$5, registration required. Contact Wendy Sweetser, 413-587-0716, ext. 14. See p. 19.

**Monday, August 18:** Public Hearing, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall, to discuss the Community Development Plan, particularly developing plans for pedestrian and bicycle trails.

**Friday, August 22:** Talk by John Sisson on early mills in Mill River and Monterey, 7:00 p.m., General Knox Museum at Monterey Library. Free, sponsored by Monterey Historical Society. See p. 6.

**Saturday, August 23:** Square and contra dancing, 8:30–11:30 p.m., Sheffield Grange, Rt. 7, Sheffield. Music by Mountain Laurel, calling by Christine Hale. All dances are taught, beginners and children are welcome. Adults \$6, children \$3. Information 528-9385.

## The Observer

**June 26–July 25**

High temp. (6/27) ..... 89°  
Low temp. (7/1, 7/20) ..... 50°  
Avg. high temp. .... 78.3°  
Avg. low temp. .... 57.2°  
Avg. temp. .... 67.8°  
Total rainfall ..... 2.44" on 13 days

**Sunday, August 24:** Lobster & Clam Fest, 2 p.m., Berkshire Fish Hatchery. \$50/person, proceeds to benefit Hatchery programs. See p. 19.

**Saturday, August 30:**

“How Is It Made?”, art and craft show, 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Monterey Firehouse Pavilion. Demonstrations, music, food. Free Sponsored by Monterey Cultural Council. See p. 6.

Spirit of Monterey Concert, Dual String Duo, 7 p.m., Monterey Meetinghouse. \$10. Information 528-2795. See p. 18.

**Sunday, August 31:** “Birds of Prey,” 1 p.m., Bidwell House Museum, Art School Road. Tom Ricardi, founder of the Massachusetts Bird of Prey Rehabilitation Facility in Conway will talk about his work and show some of the rehabilitated birds. \$5 for adults, \$2 for children. See p. 10.



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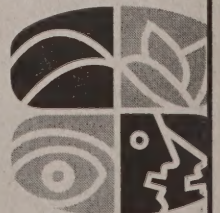
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Contributions from local artists this month:

Pat Arnow, pp. 2, 6, 9, 13, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23;

Jan Emmons, pp. 1, 7; Bonner McAllester, p. 17;

Glynis Oliver, pp. 5, 10.

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